

Campus Fate Put To Nixon

Scranton Panel Says Only He Can End Crisis

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The President's Commission on Campus Unrest said yesterday that President Nixon must respond to a national crisis by exerting his "reconciling moral leadership" as a first step in stopping violence and bringing the generations together.

The three-month study of the commission headed by former Gov. William Scranton of Pennsylvania even-handedly criticized radical students, brutal police tactics, meek college administrators and the widening gap between the generations.

But it emphasized that all its findings and most of its recommendations are dependent upon President Nixon.

"Only the President has the platform and prestige to urge all Americans, at once, to step back from the battlelines into which they are forming.

"Only the President, by example and by instruction, can effectively calm the rhetoric of both public officials and protesters whose words in the past have too often helped further divide the country, rather than unite it," the report said.

No names were mentioned in the report, but Scranton indicated at a news conference that Vice President Agnew was one of those the commission had in mind.

The report added that "... insulting rhetoric is dangerous. In the current political campaign and throughout the years ahead, the President should insist that no one play irresponsible politics with the issue of campus unrest."

At a White House news con-



Associated Press

Former Gov. William Scranton submits campus unrest report to President Nixon.

ference seemingly designed to refute the report in advance, presidential counselor Robert H. Finch said that the President is "hardly in a position to dictate to governors and other candidates what they should say or do."

Regarding Agnew's series of comments on campus disruptions, Finch said that all members of the administration were free to speak their minds.

The President's aide also took issue with the "utmost urgency" position of the report by pointing out that he has encountered a "different climate" this fall on campuses because of stronger college administrators and innovative programs that seem to be taking hold.

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Text of Commission's
major recommendations.

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President Urged to Exert Leadership

UNREST, From A1

Mr. Nixon, who leaves today for a five-nation European tour, was given the report yesterday and promised Scranton that he would read it and discuss its findings upon his return. Scranton said the President gave him no assurances that he would carry out the recommendations.

Echoing the findings of a campus report early last summer by Alexander Heard, chancellor of Vanderbilt University, Scranton indicated he did not believe that President Nixon or his advisers understood the campus situation, nor had the President exerted proper leadership since last spring's killings at Kent State University in Ohio and Jackson State College in Mississippi.

"Since the episodes of last spring, there has not been the kind of leadership needed to bring about the kind of reconciliation that we're talking about," Scranton said.

As the date of the Scranton report approached, the administration several times has indicated its belief that the place to stop campus unrest is "on the campuses," and Mr. Nixon has made it clear he wants a minimal federal role. Finch reiterated that yesterday, saying the campuses "should run their own shop."

But the Scranton report said the war in Indochina, racism, as well as the colleges themselves, are to blame for student unrest.

"... Nothing is more important than an end to the war in Indochina. Disaffected students see the war as a symbol of moral crisis in the nation which, in their eyes, deprives even law of its legitimacy. Their dramatic reaction to the Cambodian invasion was a measure of the intensity of their moral recoil."

The report also urged the President to "renew the national commitment to full social justice, and to be aware of increasing charges of repression. We recommend that he take steps to see to it that the words and deeds of govern-

ment do not encourage belief in those charges."

Scranton said at his news conference with all nine members of the commission appointed by the White House that the report's findings were unanimous. Afterward he was asked if there was controversy within the group over the direct and indirect criticism of Mr. Nixon's leadership as President.

He said there wasn't a great deal of controversy within the group. The entire commission was opposed to the war in Indochina, he said, and collectively believed there is a lack of social justice in the nation.

Scranton acknowledged, however, that even if the war ended soon, campus unrest would continue.

The commission said that polarization is so great that a significant domestic conflict or an unpopular foreign policy decision could trigger violent protest on campuses that would be followed by counter-violence and repression.

"We utterly condemn violence," the report said. "We must declare a national ceasefire."

Some of the most violent acts that have plagued campuses were blamed on highly mobile groups of revolutionaries, but the commission said these agitators are not the cause of most of the large-scale protests and disorders.

These agitators cannot be successful, the report said, without an atmosphere of tension, frustration, and dissent.

The report supported the right of peaceful dissent, and observed that most student protesters are not violent or extremist. But it said that "perpetrators of violence" should be identified, removed from the university and prosecuted. The report also said that revolutionary faculty members have "no place in the university community."

Some findings and recommendations:

- Universities have not adequately prepared themselves to respond to disruption. They have been without suitable

plans, rules or sanctions. Some administrators and faculty have responded irresolutely. Frequently, announced sanctions have not been applied.

- Too many students have acted irresponsibly and even dangerously in pursuing their stated goals and expressing their dissent.

- State and local officials should make plans for handling campus disorders in full cooperation with one another and with the universities. States should establish precise guidelines determining when the National Guard should intervene in a campus disorder.

- Government should increase its financial support of higher education.

- The Pentagon should develop other ways to educate officers than ROTC programs.

- National Guard and police should be given more intensive training on controlling civil disturbances and be equipped with non-lethal weapons. Deadly force should only be used as a last resort.

- Universities should permit

speakers of every point of view to be heard, strengthen their disciplinary processes and should promptly summon law enforcement help if criminal violence occurs.

Underlying the campus problem, the commission reported, is an emerging youth culture that is inclined to separate itself from the rest of society with their dress and life style. This culture believes America has lost its sense of human purpose and see their elders "trapped by materialism and competition—prisoners of outdated social forms."

Feeling a religious fervor that they must remake America in their own image, new culture members exhibit a lack of tolerance and insist their own views should govern, the report said. They increasingly deny "the humanity and goodwill of those who urge patience and restraint and particularly those whose duty it is to enforce the law." Other Americans, the report added, are rejecting the new culture members, sometimes simply on the basis of how they look.